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Nationality of the patients treated in the Central Hospital of the French Canal Company at Panama during the year 1903:

Foreign whites	15
West Indian and other negroes	118
Colombians	21

In establishing an average for these six years it will be seen that in an average personnel of 2,048 the morbidity was 27.90 per cent and the mortality was 2.38 per cent.

However, in considering this low morbidity and mortality it must be pointed out, as Doctor Lacroisade states, that the personnel has been a long time on the Isthmus, is thoroughly acclimated and may be considered exhausted as a field for climatic diseases, because 60 per cent of the general mortality was caused by chronic organic diseases which are incident to all countries, whereas the mortality due to climatic diseases did not exceed 9.20 per cent.

The bureau personnel, forming about 8 per cent of the total number of employees on the Isthmus, gives only 5.70 per cent of the general mortality; 94.30 per cent of the total death rate occurred among the laborers.

Still the above should not be taken as an index of the morbidity that would occur, under the present sanitary conditions in a new force of workmen engaged in constructing different parts of the canal, because the laborers forming the basis of the statistics submitted have been principally engaged at Culebra, a location that topographically offers a much better sanitary site than some other portions of the canal route.

The history of the first days of the canal, when there was a large influx of new workmen, is entirely different from that outlined above.

In conversation with physicians who were employed by the canal company in those days, competent men of accurate scientific observation, I have been told that the morbidity and mortality were very high, the principal diseases being malarial fevers, yellow fever, dysentery and beriberi. The pernicious forms of malarial fever were frequent and fatal. I regret that I have been unable to obtain any statistics of the morbidity and mortality that prevailed among the workmen in the days of the first French Canal Company.

An examination of the statistics submitted shows that in 1898 the morbidity among the agents and laborers was 42 per cent and that the average has been 27.90 per cent, and although this is lower than that which prevails in the towns of Colon and Panama, it must be borne in mind that the population under consideration were strong and vigorous adults, therefore a lower morbidity rate would naturally be expected. For the same reason, and on account of better hygienic surroundings, and professional care and treatment, the above can not be taken as indicative of the morbidity and mortality among the inhabitants of the villages on the line of the canal.

Summary of work in Chinatown, San Francisco, for the week ended April 23, 1904.

The following is received from Passed Assistant Surgeon Blue, under date of April 25:

Week ended April 23.

Buildings reinspected	257
Rooms	2,218
Persons inspected	2,844
Sick	17

Sick prescribed for at Oriental Dispensary	17
Dead examined	6
Necropsies	1
Rats examined bacteriologically	27
Number showing pest infection	None.
Places limed and disinfected	777
Times streets swept	3
Sewers flushed	16
Notices served to abate plumbing nuisances	18
Plumbing nuisances abated	11
Undergoing abatement	11
Total number plumbing inspections	109

Epidemic of enteric fever at Millinocket, Me.—Supposed cause, infected water.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Small at Eastport reports April 21, as follows:

Millinocket, Me., has a serious epidemic of enteric fever. There are more than 200 cases with many deaths. Infected water supposed cause.

Transactions on account of smallpox in northern Maine, Canadian border.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Hammond, at Van Buren, reports April 16, through Surgeon Kalloch, as follows:

Weekly report of sanitary work in Madawaska region, week ended April 16, 1904.

Cases smallpox under supervision	10
Previously reported	10
New cases	0
Houses under quarantine	3
Persons vaccinated	0
Miles of territory covered	26

Transactions on account of yellow fever at Laredo, Tex.

Visit to Nuevo Laredo—Method of disinfecting shacks.

LAREDO, TEX., April 15, 1904.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Bureau letter of April 9, and to state that I shall make a daily visit to Nuevo Laredo, Mexico.

I have already made several visits to the city in question—the last two upon the invitation of Doctor Garza, the mayor and representative of the superior board of health, and Dr. Narciso del Rio, who came to Nuevo Laredo to institute the work of disinfection and inspection at that place.

It was my privilege to visit the municipal hospital, and also to see the very ingenious method instituted by Doctor del Rio, for the disinfection of "jacals." This method consists in covering the shack to be disinfected entirely with a rather heavy cotton cloth cut in a special shape, pasting all cracks and apertures to prevent the exit of mosquitoes, and burning sulphur. About half an hour is required to prepare an ordinary sized jacal for disinfection. Doctor del Rio informs me that this method was used in Victoria, where over 60 per cent of the dwellings are of the jacal class, with great success.